

## ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX602 MCN = 92366/11287 TOR = 923660700  
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS1046 3660654 RUEALGX.  
ZNY

## HEADER

R 310654Z DEC 92  
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE  
R 302130Z DEC 92  
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC//DOF-1//  
TO RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//  
INFO RUHQHQI/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI  
RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA/USDP:POW-MIA  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5/PW-MIA//  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP/VLC//  
RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J32//  
RHHMMCJ/JICPAC HONOLULU HI

BT

## CONTROLS

POW-MIA	
DATE RCD: 31 Dec 92	
ACTION OFFICER: R	
DISTR	ACT/INFO
MR. SHEETZ	
MR. TROWBRIDGE	
AN	
PW-1	
PW-2	✓
PW-3	
PW-4	✓
OTHER	

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

## BODY

SUBJ: COLLECTION SUPPORT REQUIREMENT (CSR)  
REF: A. JCRC LNO BANGKOK MSG, DTG 250903Z MAY 90, SUBJ: DETENTION  
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF CASE 1981

B. JCRC LNO BANGKOK MSG, DTG 200528Z JUL 90, SUBJ: SRV CASE  
NARRATIVES

COUNTRY: VM

TITLE: PRIORITY CASUALTY CASE -- REFNO 1981

REQNO: D-VOP-44495

SUMMARY: CASE 1981 (MORRIS/PETERSON); PRIORITY CASE FOR  
INVESTIGATION; 27 JANUARY 1973, OUT OF AIRCRAFT IN AREA SOUTH OF  
DMZ, FATE UNKNOWN, TRIEU HAI DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE.

## TEXT:

1. THE FOLLOWING COLLECTION SUPPORT REQUIREMENT (CSR)  
CONTAINS VALIDATED HUMINT COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS WHICH AMPLIFY THE  
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THIS CSR PROVIDES DETAILED INFORMATION NEEDED IN SUPPORT OF THIS  
IO.

2. THIS DOCUMENT ALONE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE TASKING.

IPSP: PG 2430

COMSOBJ: 52

PRIORITY: 1

EXPYO: 1401

## BACKGD:

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MORRIS, JR. AND 1LT MARK A. PETERSON WERE ABOARD AN OV-10A AIRCRAFT  
WHICH WAS ASSISTING THE ATTEMPT TO RESCUE AN F4 CREW WHICH HAD JUST

BEEN DOWNED IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE. WHILE NEAR THE CUA VIET RIVER,  
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RALLIER HEARD THAT A SECOND PILOT WAS KIA AT THE CRASH SITE.  
FOLLOWING SEVERAL INTERVIEWS, THE RALLIER IDENTIFIED LCDR KIENTZLER  
AS THE POW HE HAD SEEN. HE ALSO INDICATED (HEARSAY) THAT THE OV-10  
PILOT WHO WAS KILLED HAD BEEN BURIED IN THE TUONG VAN AREA IN THE  
VICINITY OF YD 328679. THIS APPEARS TO BE A COMPOSITE STORY  
COMBINING ELEMENTS FROM BOTH THE MORRIS/PETERSON INCIDENT AND THE

KIENTZLER/HALL INCIDENT.

PAGE:0015

C. IN AUGUST 1974 AN NVA RALLIER REPORTED HEARSAY INFORMATION OBTAINED IN JANUARY 73 OF THE SHOOTDOWN OF AN OV-10 AIRCRAFT NEARBY IN THE CUA VIET AREA. ALLEGEDLY THE AMERICAN PILOT'S PARACHUTE MALFUNCTIONED AND HE FELL TO HIS DEATH IN A RICE FIELD IN THE VICINITY OF YD 330655. AGAIN, ELEMENTS OF THIS STORY MAY BE RELATED TO THE MORRIS/PETERSON INCIDENT.

5. A JOINT US/SRV TEAM INVESTIGATED THIS CASE DURING 25-27 APRIL 90 (SEE REF A). AMONG THE SEVERAL WITNESSES INTERVIEWED WERE MR. TRUONG QUOC SANH, MR. TRUONG SI LOC, MR. LE VAN NGOAN, AND MR. TRAN BINH CAN, EACH OF WHICH ADDED HIS PARTICULAR PERSPECTIVE TO THE EVENTS RELATING TO THE CASE.

A. MR. TRUONG SI LOC, WHO CLAIMED TO BE A FIRSTHAND WITNESS, CONTENDED THAT THE TWO AVIATORS, ONE CAUCASIAN AND THE OTHER ONE BLACK, DESCENDED IN THEIR PARACHUTES UNHARMED AND THEN USED THEIR PISTOLS TO FEND OFF CAPTURE BY NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS. EVENTUALLY BOTH WERE SHOT AND KILLED, AND THEIR BODIES ABANDONED IN PLACE. AFTER 1975, VILLAGERS RETURNED TO THE AREA AND REPORTED FINDING SCATTERED BONES IN THE AREA. DURING A VISIT TO THE AREA, LOC POINTED OUT A MOUND WHERE HE ALLEGED THE CAUCASIAN'S BONES HAD BEEN BURIED (YD 328 637). (THIS MOUND WAS LATER EXCAVATED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.)

B. MR. LE VAN NGOAN REPORTED THAT VILLAGERS IN THE AREA WERE AWARE OF THE INCIDENT AND HAD SEEN TWO BODIES ON THE GROUND NEAR THE CRASH LOCATION, BUT HE DID NOT REPORT ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISPOSITION OF THESE REMAINS.

C. OTHER VILLAGERS FROM TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE EXHIBITED VARYING DEGREES OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT WERE GENERALLY UNHELPFUL IN CONFIRMING THE FATE OF THE AVIATORS, OR IN PINPOINTING A LOCATION FOR THEIR REMAINS.

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 \*\*\*\*\*/

6. DURING A JULY 1990 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI, THE VNOSMP PRESENTED A REPORT PROVIDING THEIR PERSPECTIVE ON THIS CASE AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE JOINT INVESTIGATION (SEE REF B). THE VNOSMP AGREED WITH THE LOCAL TESTIMONY TO THE EFFECT THAT THE TWO AVIATORS, ONE BLACK AND ONE CAUCASIAN, WERE KILLED ON THE GROUND WHILE EVADING CAPTURE, THAT THE REMAINS WERE ABANDONED AND LEFT UNBURIED, THAT RETURNING VILLAGERS DISCOVERED SCATTERED BONES IN THE AREA AFTER 1975, AND THAT THERE REMAINS ARE NOW UNLOCATABLE. THE VNOSMP RECOMMENDED THAT THIS CASE BE CLOSED.

7. IT MUST BE NOTED HERE THAT, WHILE THERE IS STRONG CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT THE CREW DID NOT SURVIVE THIS INCIDENT, THERE IS NO CREDIBLE CORROBORATION. FURTHER, THE CONTENTION THAT ONE CREW MEMBER WAS BLACK AND THE OTHER CAUCASIAN (WHEN IN FACT BOTH WERE CAUCASIAN) LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT MUCH OF THE TESTIMONY IS HEARSAY WHICH HAS BECOME INTERTWINED WITH OTHER INCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN THIS SAME GENERAL AREA (E.G., THE WALKER/POTTS INCIDENT OR THE GREENLEAF/MCKINNEY INCIDENT). LACKING CREDIBLE TESTIMONY FROM CREDIBLE FIRSTHAND SOURCES, THE FATE OF CAPT MORRIS AND LT PETERSON WILL PROBABLY ONLY BE DETERMINED THROUGH

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH OF CONTEMPORARY RECORDS.

PAGE:0016

REQMTS:

1. WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF CONFIRMING THE FATE OF CAPT MORRIS AND LT PETERSON, PURSUE ALL LEADS DEVELOPED BY THE VNOSMP AND PROVINCE/DISTRICT TEAMS IN THEIR ADVANCE PREPARATION. THEN, PURSUE THE OBJECTIVE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS.

2. ATTEMPT ONCE AGAIN TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW FIRSTHAND WITNESSES REGARDING THEIR RECOLLECTIONS OF THE SHOOTDOWN INCIDENT AND ITS AFTERMATH. GOOD CANDIDATES WOULD INCLUDE LONGTIME RESIDENTS OF TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNIST INFRASTRUCTURE OR MILITIA. IN ADDITION TO THEIR PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS, OF PARTICULAR VALUE WOULD BE AND DIARIES, NOTEBOOKS, OR JOURNALS MAINTAINED BY SUCH INDIVIDUALS WHICH MAKE MENTION OF THIS INCIDENT. LSI MIGHT INQUIRE AS TO THE PRESENCE OF ANYONE LIVING IN THE AREA WHO IS KNOWN TO MAINTAIN SUCH PERSONAL RECORDS.

3. ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND EXPLOIT PERTINENT ARCHIVAL RECORDS:

A. RECORDS OF THE FORMER TRIEU PHUOC DISTRICT SHOULD BE EXAMINED FOR INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE MORRIS/PETERSON INCIDENT, TO INCLUDE THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL EFFECTS OF THE TWO MEN. PRESUMING THEIR DEATH, IT SEEMS UNREALISTIC TO BELIEVE THAT THEIR REMAINS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SEARCHED AND STRIPPED OF PERSONAL ARTIFACTS, WEAPONS, ETC., WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO DISTRICT OFFICIALS. (WE ALSO TAKE NOTE THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE REMAINS OF TWO DOWNED AMERICAN FLIERS WOULD HAVE BEEN LEFT UNTENDED AND UNBURIED FOLLOWING THEIR DEATH, REGARDLESS OF THE LOCAL SITUATION AT THE TIME.) WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THE DISTRICT WOULD HAVE MAINTAINED OTHER RECORDS AS WELL. THESE WOULD INCLUDE LISTS OF AMERICANS TAKEN CAPTIVE, AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN (AND DISPOSITION OF CREWMEN), RECORDS OF AMERICANS BURIED IN THE DISTRICT TO INCLUDE BURIAL LOCATION, AND RESPONSES TO HIGHER LEVEL INQUIRIES REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE OF AMERICAN REMAINS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION. A CHECK SHOULD BE MADE FOR PARALLEL RECORDS AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL, TO INCLUDE FRONT 7 ARCHIVAL RECORDS.

B. THE MORRIS/PETERSON AIRCRAFT WAS BELIEVED DOWNED BY THE 1ST BATTALION OF THE 243RD ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY REGIMENT AND F-27 AIR DEFENSE REGIMENT (SAM). REGIMENTAL RECORDS SHOULD CONTAIN ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE OF THEIR EXPLOITS, TO INCLUDE FATE OF CREWMEN AND DISPOSITION OF THEIR REMAINS IN THE EVENT THEY WERE KILLED.

C. LSI SHOULD ALSO SEEK ACCESS TO PERTINENT HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVAL RECORDS OF MILITARY REGION TRI-THIEN-HUE, THE VINH LINH SPECIAL ZONE, THE B-5 FRONT, AND ANY OTHER COMBAT AND AIR DEFENSE UNITS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN THE AREA AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. AT A HIGHER LEVEL, RECORDS SHOULD ALSO BE RETAINED WITHIN THE PAVN'S GENERAL POLITICAL DIRECTORATE, AND WITH GROUP 875, DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY JUSTICE, WHO SHOULD HAVE RECORDS RELATING TO THE PAVN PROGRAM TO RECOVER REMAINS OF AMERICANS FROM SITED THROUGHOUT SOUTHEAST ASIA.

4. LSI SHOULD PURSUE ADDITIONAL LEADS AS APPROPRIATE AND AS SUGGESTED IN REF A, PARAGRAPHS 6 AND 8, THE MORE DETAILED REPORT OF THE APRIL 1990 INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE.

5. COLLECTOR SHOULD RECORD AND REPORT WHEN, WHERE, AND IN THAT CIRCUMSTANCES REQUESTS WERE MADE TO VNOSMP AND LOCAL OFFICIALS FOR ASSISTANCE, DOCUMENTS, WITNESSES, ETC. AND REPORT THE RESULTS, POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, INCLUDING AT LEAST ALL TASKING ITEMS ABOVE. COLLECTOR IS ALSO ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE HIS OBSERVATIONS AND/OR COMMENTS REGARDING WITNESS DEemeanor, BYSTANDER COMMENTS, ETC. GUID:

1. **RELEASABILITY:** THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE RELEASED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, THEIR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES AND/OR OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS; HOWEVER, DISCREET USE OF THE BACKGROUND AND REQUIREMENTS PORTIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE MADE BY COLLECTORS IN CONTACT WITH FOREIGN NATIONALS ONLY AS PRESCRIBED IN DIAM 58-13, VOL I, CHAPTER 3, PARA 8.B.

2. THE LSI COLLECTION EFFORT WILL BE ENTIRELY OVERT, WITH THE SANCTION OF APPROPRIATE VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. THE LSI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ESCORT, HOPEFULLY HIS VIETNAMESE COUNTERPART, WITH AUTHORITY TO ENSURE LOCAL COOPERATION AND ACCESS.

3. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT LSI WILL CONDUCT THIS INVESTIGATION AS A MEMBER OF A JOINT TASK FORCE TEAM OPERATING IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE, VIETNAM, IN JANUARY 1993.

4. IDEALLY, THE U.S. WOULD LIKE TO ACQUIRE ORIGINAL COPIES OF ALL RECORDS RELATING TO U.S. POWS AND CASUALTIES, IF ONLY TO BORROW, ANALYZE AND, IF NECESSARY, LATER RETURN SUCH DOCUMENTS. RECOGNIZING THAT THE VIETNAMESE MAY NOT WISH TO RELEASE CUSTODY OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, HOWEVER, INVESTIGATORS SHOULD SEEK TO ACQUIRE PHOTOGRAPHS AND/OR OTHER LEGIBLE COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONTAINING INFORMATION RELEVANT TO U.S. POWS OR CASUALTIES. IN SOME CASES, THE VIETNAMESE MAY ONLY PERMIT THE INVESTIGATOR TO MAKE VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTIONS OF RELEVANT INFORMATION, WHICH CAN PROVE SATISFACTORY IF CAREFULLY DOCUMENTED AS SUCH.

A. ALTHOUGH THE COLLECTOR SHOULD, OF COURSE, ACCEPT ANY AND ALL INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS PROVIDED, HE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT EXTRACTS PREPARED BY THE VIETNAMESE WITHOUT U.S. OBSERVATION/VERIFICATION ARE PROBLEMATIC IN TERMS OF EVIDENTIARY VALUE, AND THE VIETNAMESE SHOULD AT ALL TIMES BE PRESSED TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. WE NOTE THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAVE IN THE PAST PROVIDED THE U.S. WITH SRV-PREPARED EXTRACTS. IN ADDITION TO OBVIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE VERIFICATION OF SUCH INFORMATION,

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 \*\*\*\*\*/

THESE DOCUMENTS HAVE CONTAINED SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS, DUE LARGELY TO ANALYTICAL AND OTHER ERRORS BY THE VIETNAMESE.

B. IN ORDER TO GUIDE FURTHER RECORDS INVESTIGATION AND TO ESTABLISH THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY ARCHIVAL INFORMATION COLLECTED, COLLECTORS MUST ALSO SOLICIT AND REPORT DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE ORIGIN OF AND DOCUMENT DISCOVERED. SUCH INFORMATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE COMPLETE TITLE AND DATE OF PREPARATION, AS WELL AS ALL POSSIBLE INFORMATION ON THE REPORTING ENTITY, ORIGINATING REQUIREMENTS, AND DESTINATION.

5. IN THE PART THE VIETNAMESE HAVE EXPRESSED SECURITY CONCERNS WHEN DENYING ACCESS TO WARTIME DOCUMENTS. THE COLLECTOR IS URGED

TO ASSURE THE VIETNAMESE THAT THE U.S. IS INTERESTED ONLY IN INFORMATION RELEVANT TO U.S. POWS, MIAS, AND CASUALTIES. IF PARTICULAR COLUMNS OR SECTIONS OF A DOCUMENT APPEAR TO CONTAIN PURELY MILITARY INFORMATION NOT RELEVANT TO THE INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE, THESE CAN BE OMITTED IF THE VIETNAMESE INSIST. HOWEVER, THE COLLECTOR IS ASKED TO VERIFY AND DOCUMENT THE SCOPE OF THE OMISSIONS AND THE GENERAL NATURE OF OMITTED ITEMS.

6. **IIR DISTRIBUTION:** ADDRESS IIR'S IN RESPONSE TO THIS CSR TO DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA/DO-MS// AND CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI WITH INFO COPIES FOR CJTF-FA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, JICPAC HONOLULU HI, AND USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J32//. ALL RESPONSES SHOULD INCLUDE THE STATEMENT "THIS IS A STONY BEACH REPORT". ORIGINALS OR LEGIBLE PHOTOCOPIES OF ALL SKETCHES, DOCUMENTS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, ETC. (EXCEPT HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS) SHOULD BE SENT VIA REGISTERED MAIL DIRECTLY TO THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, ATTN: PW-MIA (ROOM CL921) 3100 CLARENDON BLVD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201. IF HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS ARE RECEIVED, ADDRESSEES SHOULD SUBMIT AN IIR TO THAT EFFECT AND TRANSMIT AN ELECTRICAL MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI, REQUESTING DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS.

7. PUBLIC LAW AND DOD POLICY MANDATE THAT ALL PW/MIA-RELATED REPORTS THAT CORRELATE TO OR CONTAIN THE NAME OF AN AMERICAN MISSING OR UNACCOUNTED FOR BE FORWARDED TO THE PARENT MILITARY SERVICE CASUALTY OFFICE OR TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) FOR CIVILIANS, FOR FURTHER RELEASE TO THE NEXT OF KIN. UPON REQUEST FROM SERVICES OR DOS, COLLECTORS ARE REQUIRED TO SANITIZE THESE REPORTS FOR RELEASE. WHILE SOURCES AND METHODS SHOULD BE PROTECTED, EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RELEASE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INFORMATION.

8. IAW ASD/C3I MEMORANDUM DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1992, SUBJECT: SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF DOD POW/MIA INFORMATION, RESPONSES TO THIS REQUIREMENT WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

A. LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS: SECRET (WHERE SOURCES AND METHODS ARE INCLUDED); CONFIDENTIAL (LESS SOURCES AND METHODS).  
B. CRASH OR GRAVESITE REPORTS: UNCLASSIFIED (LESS SOURCES AND METHODS).

C. ALL OTHER PW/MIA-RELATED INFORMATION (E.G. INFORMATION REGARDING REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, INCLUDING DOG TAGS, DETENTION CAMPS, ETC.): CONSISTENT WITH POLICY CONCERNING SOURCES, METHODS OF COLLECTION, AND CONTENT.

ORIGNO: D-VOP-2430-03-90-CSR-LKA-1981.

ORIGNME: AN

COLLECTION MANAGER.

ORIGTEL: COMMERCIAL/STU-III (COLLECT) (703) 908-2756 OR SECURE (GREY) 981-7764.

ADMIN

BT

#1048

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE:0013

ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX602 MCN = 92366/11287 TOR = 923660700  
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS1046 3660654 -RURATGX.

ZNY

HEADER

R 310654Z DEC 92

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INFO RUEALGX/SAFE

R 302130Z DEC 92

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC//DOF-1//

TO RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

INFO RUHQHQI/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI

RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA/USDP:POW-MIA

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GUARD IN THE DIRECTION OF THE TRIEU PHONG DISTRICT UNIT. THE  
RALLIER HEARD THAT A SECOND PILOT WAS KIA AT THE CRASH SITE.  
FOLLOWING SEVERAL INTERVIEWS, THE RALLIER IDENTIFIED LCDR KIENTZLER  
AS THE POW HE HAD SEEN. HE ALSO INDICATED (HEARSAY) THAT THE OV-10  
PILOT WHO WAS KILLED HAD BEEN BURIED IN THE THONG VAN AREA IN THE  
VICINITY OF YD 328679. THIS APPEARS TO BE A COMPOSITE STORY  
COMBINING ELEMENTS FROM BOTH THE MORRIS/PETERSON INCIDENT AND THE

181

182



KIENTZLER/HALL INCIDENT.

PAGE:0015

C. IN AUGUST 1974 AN NVA RALLIER REPORTED HEARSAY INFORMATION OBTAINED IN JANUARY 73 OF THE SHOOTDOWN OF AN OV-10 AIRCRAFT NEARBY IN THE CUA VIET AREA. ALLEGEDLY THE AMERICAN PILOT'S PARACHUTE MALFUNCTIONED AND HE FELL TO HIS DEATH IN A RICE FIELD IN THE VICINITY OF YD 330655. AGAIN, ELEMENTS OF THIS STORY MAY BE RELATED TO THE MORRIS/PETERSON INCIDENT.

5. A JOINT US/SRV TEAM INVESTIGATED THIS CASE DURING 25-27 APRIL 90 (SEE REF A). AMONG THE SEVERAL WITNESSES INTERVIEWED WERE MR. TRUONG QUOC SANH, MR. TRUONG SI LOC, MR. LE VAN NGOAN, AND MR. TRAN BINH CAN, EACH OF WHICH ADDED HIS PARTICULAR PERSPECTIVE TO THE EVENTS RELATING TO THE CASE.

A. MR. TRUONG SI LOC, WHO CLAIMED TO BE A FIRSTHAND WITNESS, CONTENDED THAT THE TWO AVIATORS, ONE CAUCASIAN AND THE OTHER ONE BLACK, DESCENDED IN THEIR PARACHUTES UNHARMED AND THEN USED THEIR PISTOLS TO FEND OFF CAPTURE BY NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS. EVENTUALLY BOTH WERE SHOT AND KILLED, AND THEIR BODIES ABANDONED IN PLACE. AFTER 1975, VILLAGERS RETURNED TO THE AREA AND REPORTED FINDING SCATTERED BONES IN THE AREA. DURING A VISIT TO THE AREA, LOC POINTED OUT A MOUND WHERE HE ALLEGED THE CAUCASIAN'S BONES HAD BEEN BURIED (YD 328 637). (THIS MOUND WAS LATER EXCAVATED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.)

B. MR. LE VAN NGOAN REPORTED THAT VILLAGERS IN THE AREA WERE AWARE OF THE INCIDENT AND HAD SEEN TWO BODIES ON THE GROUND NEAR THE CRASH LOCATION, BUT HE DID NOT REPORT ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISPOSITION OF THESE REMAINS.

C. OTHER VILLAGERS FROM TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE EXHIBITED VARYING DEGREES OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT WERE GENERALLY UNHELPFUL IN CONFIRMING THE FATE OF THE AVIATORS, OR IN PINPOINTING A LOCATION FOR THEIR REMAINS.

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 \*\*\*\*\*/

6. DURING A JULY 1990 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI, THE VNOSMP PRESENTED A REPORT PROVIDING THEIR PERSPECTIVE ON THIS CASE AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE JOINT INVESTIGATION (SEE REF A). THE VNOSMP AGREED WITH THE LOCAL TESTIMONY TO THE EFFECT THAT THE TWO AVIATORS, ONE BLACK AND ONE CAUCASIAN, WERE KILLED ON THE GROUND WHILE EVADING CAPTURE, THAT THE REMAINS WERE ABANDONED AND LEFT UNBURIED, THAT RETURNING VILLAGERS DISCOVERED SCATTERED BONES IN THE AREA AFTER 1975, AND THAT THERE REMAINS ARE NOW UNLOCATABLE. THE VNOSMP RECOMMENDED THAT THIS CASE BE CLOSED.

7. IT MUST BE NOTED HERE THAT, WHILE THERE IS STRONG CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT THE CREW DID NOT SURVIVE THIS INCIDENT, THERE IS NO CREDIBLE CORROBORATION. FURTHER, THE CONTENTION THAT ONE CREW MEMBER WAS BLACK AND THE OTHER CAUCASIAN (WHEN IN FACT BOTH WERE CAUCASIAN) LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT MUCH OF THE TESTIMONY IS HEARSAY WHICH HAS BECOME INTERTWINED WITH OTHER INCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN THIS SAME GENERAL AREA (E.G., THE WALKER/POTTS INCIDENT OR THE GREENLEAF/MCKINNEY INCIDENT). LACKING CANDID TESTIMONY FROM CREDIBLE FIRSTHAND SOURCES, THE FATE OF CAPT MORRIS AND LT PETERSON WILL PROBABLY ONLY BE DETERMINED THROUGH

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH OF CONTEMPORARY RECORDS.

PAGE:0016

REQMTS:

1. WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF CONFIRMING THE FATE OF CAPT MORRIS AND LT PETERSON, PURSUE ALL LEADS DEVELOPED BY THE VNOSMP AND PROVINCE/DISTRICT TEAMS IN THEIR ADVANCE PREPARATION. THEN, PURSUE THE OBJECTIVE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS.

2. ATTEMPT ONCE AGAIN TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW FIRSTHAND WITNESSES REGARDING THEIR RECOLLECTIONS OF THE SHOOTDOWN INCIDENT AND ITS AFTERMATH. GOOD CANDIDATES WOULD INCLUDE LONGTIME RESIDENTS OF TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNIST INFRASTRUCTURE OR MILITIA. IN ADDITION TO THEIR PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS, OF PARTICULAR VALUE WOULD BE AND DIARIES, NOTEBOOKS, OR JOURNALS MAINTAINED BY SUCH INDIVIDUALS WHICH MAKE MENTION OF THIS INCIDENT. LSI MIGHT INQUIRE AS TO THE PRESENCE OF ANYONE LIVING IN THE AREA WHO IS KNOWN TO MAINTAIN SUCH PERSONAL RECORDS.

3. ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND EXPLOIT PERTINENT ARCHIVAL RECORDS:

A. RECORDS OF THE FORMER TRIEU PHONE DISTRICT SHOULD BE EXAMINED FOR INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE MORRIS/PETERSON INCIDENT, TO INCLUDE THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL EFFECTS OF THE TWO MEN. PRESUMING THEIR DEATH, IT SEEMS UNREALISTIC TO BELIEVE THAT THEIR REMAINS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SEARCHED AND STRIPPED OF PERSONAL ARTIFACTS, WEAPONS, ETC., WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO DISTRICT OFFICIALS. (WE ALSO TAKE NOTE THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE REMAINS OF TWO DOWNED AMERICAN FLIERS WOULD HAVE BEEN LEFT UNTENDED AND UNBURIED FOLLOWING THEIR DEATH, REGARDLESS OF THE LOCAL SITUATION AT THE TIME.) WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THE DISTRICT WOULD HAVE MAINTAINED OTHER RECORDS AS WELL. THESE WOULD INCLUDE LISTS OF AMERICANS TAKEN CAPTIVE, AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN (AND DISPOSITION OF CREWMEN), RECORDS OF AMERICANS BURIED IN THE DISTRICT TO INCLUDE BURIAL LOCATION, AND RESPONSES TO HIGHER LEVEL INQUIRIES REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE OF AMERICAN REMAINS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION. A CHECK SHOULD BE MADE FOR PARALLEL RECORDS AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL, TO INCLUDE FRONT 7 ARCHIVAL RECORDS.

B. THE MORRIS/PETERSON AIRCRAFT WAS BELIEVED DOWNED BY THE 1ST BATTALION OF THE 243RD ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY REGIMENT AND E-27 AIR DEFENSE REGIMENT (SAM). REGIMENTAL RECORDS SHOULD CONTAIN ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE OF THEIR EXPLOITS, TO INCLUDE FATE OF CREWMEN AND DISPOSITION OF THEIR REMAINS IN THE EVENT THEY WERE KILLED.

C. LSI SHOULD ALSO SEEK ACCESS TO PERTINENT HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVAL RECORDS OF MILITARY REGION TRI-THIEN-HUE, THE VINH LINH SPECIAL ZONE, THE B-5 FRONT, AND ANY OTHER COMBAT AND AIR DEFENSE UNITS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN THE AREA AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. AT A HIGHER LEVEL, RECORDS SHOULD ALSO BE RETAINED WITHIN THE PAVN'S GENERAL POLITICAL DIRECTORATE, AND WITH GROUP 875, DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY JUSTICE, WHO SHOULD HAVE RECORDS RELATING TO THE PAVN PROGRAM TO RECOVER REMAINS OF AMERICANS FROM SITED THROUGHOUT SOUTHEAST ASIA.

4. LSI SHOULD PURSUE ADDITIONAL LEADS AS APPROPRIATE AND AS SUGGESTED IN REF A, PARAGRAPHS 6 AND 8, THE MORE DETAILED REPORT OF THE APRIL 1990 INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE.

5. COLLECTOR SHOULD RECORD AND REPORT WHEN, WHERE, AND IN THAT CIRCUMSTANCES REQUESTS WERE MADE TO VNOSMP AND LOCAL OFFICIALS FOR ASSISTANCE, DOCUMENTS, WITNESSES, ETC. AND REPORT THE RESULTS, POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, INCLUDING AT LEAST ALL TASKING ITEMS ABOVE. COLLECTOR IS ALSO ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE HIS OBSERVATIONS AND/OR COMMENTS REGARDING WITNESS DEMEANOR, BYSTANDER COMMENTS, ETC' GUID:

1. RELEASABILITY: THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE RELEASED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, THEIR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES AND/OR OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS; HOWEVER, DISCREET USE OF THE BACKGROUND AND REQUIREMENTS PORTIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE MADE BY COLLECTORS IN CONTACT WITH FOREIGN NATIONALS ONLY AS PRESCRIBED IN DIAM 58-13, VOL I, CHAPTER 3, PARA 8.B.

2. THE LSI COLLECTION EFFORT WILL BE ENTIRELY OVERT, WITH THE SANCTION OF APPROPRIATE VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. THE LSI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ESCORT, HOPEFULLY HIS VIETNAMESE COUNTERPART, WITH AUTHORITY TO ENSURE LOCAL COOPERATION AND ACCESS.

3. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT LSI WILL CONDUCT THIS INVESTIGATION AS A MEMBER OF A JOINT TASK FORCE TEAM OPERATING IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE, VIETNAM, IN JANUARY 1993.

4. IDEALLY, THE U.S. WOULD LIKE TO ACQUIRE ORIGINAL COPIES OF ALL RECORDS RELATING TO U.S. POWS AND CASUALTIES, IF ONLY TO BORROW, ANALYZE AND, IF NECESSARY, LATER RETURN SUCH DOCUMENTS. RECOGNIZING THAT THE VIETNAMESE MAY NOT WISH TO RELEASE CUSTODY OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, HOWEVER, INVESTIGATORS SHOULD SEEK TO ACQUIRE PHOTOGRAPHS AND/OR OTHER LEGIBLE COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONTAINING INFORMATION RELEVANT TO U.S. POWS OR CASUALTIES. IN SOME CASES, THE VIETNAMESE MAY ONLY PERMIT THE INVESTIGATOR TO MAKE VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTIONS OF RELEVANT INFORMATION, WHICH CAN PROVE SATISFACTORY IF CAREFULLY DOCUMENTED AS SUCH.

A. ALTHOUGH THE COLLECTOR SHOULD, OF COURSE, ACCEPT ANY AND ALL INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS PROVIDED, HE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT EXTRACTS PREPARED BY THE VIETNAMESE WITHOUT U.S. OBSERVATION/VERIFICATION ARE PROBLEMATIC IN TERMS OF EVIDENTIARY VALUE, AND THE VIETNAMESE SHOULD AT ALL TIMES BE PRESSED TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. WE NOTE THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAVE IN THE PAST PROVIDED THE U.S. WITH SRV-PREPARED EXTRACTS' IN ADDITION TO OBVIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE VERIFICATION OF SUCH INFORMATION,

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 \*\*\*\*\*/

THESE DOCUMENTS HAVE CONTAINED SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS, DUE LARGELY TO ANALYTICAL AND OTHER ERRORS BY THE VIETNAMESE.

B. IN ORDER TO GUIDE FURTHER RECORDS INVESTIGATION AND TO ESTABLISH THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY ARCHIVAL INFORMATION COLLECTED, COLLECTORS MUST ALSO SOLICIT AND REPORT DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE ORIGIN OF AND DOCUMENT DISCOVERED. SUCH INFORMATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE COMPLETE TITLE AND DATE OF PREPARATION, AS WELL AS ALL POSSIBLE INFORMATION ON THE REPORTING ENTITY, ORIGINATING REQUIREMENTS, AND DESTINATION.

5. IN THE PART THE VIETNAMESE HAVE EXPRESSED SECURITY CONCERNS WHEN DENYING ACCESS TO WARTIME DOCUMENTS. THE COLLECTOR IS URGED

TO ASSURE THE VIETNAMESE THAT THE U.S. IS INTERESTED ONLY IN INFORMATION RELEVANT TO U.S. POWS, MIAS, AND CASUALTIES. IF PARTICULAR COLUMNS OR SECTIONS OF A DOCUMENT APPEAR TO CONTAIN PURELY MILITARY INFORMATION NOT RELEVANT TO THE INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE, THESE CAN BE OMITTED IF THE VIETNAMESE INSIST. HOWEVER, THE COLLECTOR IS ASKED TO VERIFY AND DOCUMENT THE SCOPE OF THE OMISSIONS AND THE GENERAL NATURE OF OMITTED ITEMS.

6. IIR DISTRIBUTION: ADDRESS IIR'S IN RESPONSE TO THIS CSR TO DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA/DO-MS// AND CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI WITH INFO COPIES FOR CJTF-FA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, JICPAC HONOLULU HI, AND USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J32//. ALL RESPONSES SHOULD INCLUDE THE STATEMENT "THIS IS A STONY BEACH REPORT" ORIGINALS OR LEGIBLE PHOTOCOPIES OF ALL SKETCHES, DOCUMENTS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, ETC' (EXCEPT HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS) SHOULD BE SENT VIA REGISTERED MAIL DIRECTLY TO THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, ATTN: PW-MIA (ROOM CL921) 3100 CLARENDON BLVD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201. IF HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS ARE RECEIVED, ADDRESSEES SHOULD SUBMIT AN IIR TO THAT EFFECT AND TRANSMIT AN ELECTRICAL MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI, REQUESTING DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS.

7. PUBLIC LAW AND DOD POLICY MANDATE THAT ALL PW/MIA-RELATED REPORTS THAT CORRELATE TO OR CONTAIN THE NAME OF AN AMERICAN MISSING OR UNACCOUNTED FOR BE FORWARDED TO THE PARENT MILITARY SERVICE CASUALTY OFFICE OR TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) FOR CIVILIANS, FOR FURTHER RELEASE TO THE NEXT OF KIN. UPON REQUEST FROM SERVICES OR DOS, COLLECTORS ARE REQUIRED TO SANITIZE THESE REPORTS FOR RELEASE. WHILE SOURCES AND METHODS SHOULD BE PROTECTED, EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RELEASE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INFORMATION.

8. IAW ASD/C3I MEMORANDUM DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1992, SUBJECT: SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF DOD POW/MIA INFORMATION, RESPONSES TO THIS REQUIREMENT WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

A. LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS: SECRET (WHERE SOURCES AND METHODS ARE INCLUDED); (LESS SOURCES AND METHODS).

B. CRASH OR GRAVESITE REPORTS: UNCLASSIFIED (LESS SOURCES AND METHODS).

C. ALL OTHER PW/MIA-RELATED INFORMATION (E.G. INFORMATION REGARDING REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, INCLUDING DOG TAGS, DETENTION CAMPS, ETC.): CONSISTENT WITH POLICY CONCERNING SOURCES, METHODS OF COLLECTION, AND CONTENT.

ORIGNO: D-VOP-2430-03-90-CSR-LKA-1981.

ORIGME:

COLLECTION MANAGER.

ORIGTEL: COMMERCIAL/STU-III (COLLECT) (703) 908-2756 OR SECURE (GREY) 981-7764.

ADMIN

BT

#1048

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